

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Newly Amended) A flexible coupling for connecting a drive to a driven shaft, the coupling comprising:

an annular body of a moldable material ~~in which fastener means are incorporated~~
~~whereby the coupling may be fastened to the shafts, the fastener means comprising;~~

a number of parallel bores circumferentially distributed about said body, each bore opening to opposite sides of the body;

a plurality of link means passing around each bore, at least one of said link means of said plurality of link means extending from at least one of said bores to at least one adjacent bore in one direction from said at least one of said bores, and at least one other of said link means of said plurality of link means extending from said at least one of said bores to at least one adjacent bore in another direction from said at least one of said bores, at least a portion of each of said bores being formed exclusively by apertures of at least one of said link means;
and

washer means on opposite sides of said link means defining end orifices of each bore, each washer means having a peripheral formation, said peripheral formation engaging said moldable material such that when the body is molded to incorporate the ~~bores~~fastener means and link means, each washer means is locked by the moldable material against displacement out of said body.

2. (Currently Amended) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 1, in which said coupling couples a drive shaft having an annular flange formed with a number of circumferentially spaced holes to a driven shaft having an annular flange formed with a number of circumferentially spaced holes with a plurality of bolts passing through respective said ~~bores~~fastener means, wherein at least one of said bolts fastens the coupling to the flange of the drive shaft and at least one other of said bolts fastens the flange on the driven shaft to the coupling.

3. (Original) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said peripheral formation is a peripheral groove in each said washer means.

4. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the moldable material is a thermosetting plastics material.

5. (Original) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 4, wherein the plastics material is a urethane polymer.

6. (Original) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the washer means are of metal.

7. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the link means are of composite material.

8. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body has parallel faces extending between adjacent bores from which the washer means project, the moldable material being shaped to surround each washer means projecting from one of said body faces.

9. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing the flexible coupling claimed in claim 1, the method comprising locating in a mould an annular array of circumferentially spaced fastening means comprising link means which extend between adjacent fastening means and washer means on opposite sides of the link means, introducing into the mould a thermosetting plastics material in a liquid state so that it incorporates the fastening means and link means and penetrates said formations of the washer means and curing the plastics material.

10. (Withdrawn) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the mould is spun while a urethane polymer is introduced into it in a liquid state.